



altro

Designed for possibilities.
Made for people.



Floor and wall solutions for veterinary and general boarding facilities

Durable floor and wall solutions that stand up to four-legged friends

As patrons come in all shapes, sizes and species, veterinary care presents a unique situation when it comes to selecting interior finishes.



Veterinary facilities are faced with the same extreme problems that plague healthcare facilities. Additionally, they have the challenges of managing animal patients, odor control and threats of zoonotic pathogens. Due to these rigorous requirements, veterinary offices need durable finishes that can endure heavy cleaning.

Altro's vinyl flooring and wall cladding are ideally suited for animal facilities. Our products enhance office safety and creates a dependable solution for patients, owners, and staff.

Our selection is equipped with distinctive competencies, including:

- Stain and odor-resistant (including urine and other animal waste)
- Non-absorptive seamless surfaces
- Monolithic surface with heat-welded seams
- Incomparable scratch and abrasion resistance
- Puncture and impact-resistant, great for heavy point load needs

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As patrons come in all shapes, sizes and species, veterinary care presents a unique situation when it comes to selecting interior finishes. Traffic from shoes and claws makes selecting compatible flooring essential. You need commercial durability to cope with the demands of such traffic, seamless finishes to enhance hygiene (critical in procedure rooms) and superior cleanability to keep your facility clean and fresh.

Our innovative floors and walls selection helps contribute to a healthier, low-stress environment for animals, patients and staff throughout the facility. Veterinary practices can use our flooring in many areas, such as:

- Exam and treatment rooms
- Triage and surgery rooms
- Animal patient boarding areas
- Electronic equipment and monitoring areas
- ICU and isolation facilities
- Hazardous medical waste storage spaces
- Pharmaceutical storage areas
- Reception areas
- Break rooms, restrooms

We also offer durable, high-performance electrostatic dissipative flooring for rooms where vets keep/use enhanced imaging modalities, such as digital radiology, nuclear scintigraphy, CTs and MRIs.





Product(s) shown: Altro Whiterock White and Altro Cantata



Come
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Selecting the most effective flooring surface is the foundation of designing pet-friendly interiors. Sharp nails, shedding and the occasional “accident” can negatively affect flooring.

The following are pet-friendly priorities to consider for commercial floors and walls.

Durability

Broken and chipped tiles can be a potential health hazard for pets in multiple ways. Rigid, uneven surfaces painfully dig into paws, while harmful bacteria can evade cleaners and flourish within cracks. It is important to choose flooring with proven durability that can withstand constant heavy foot traffic, from multiple animals, and heavy rolling equipment loads without damage or surface erosion.

Slip resistance

Hurt pets need to have the proper traction underfoot to avoid tripping and falling. Wood and tile floors can be slippery for dogs, especially larger breeds. Solutions with a slip-resistant or embossed surface finish allow them to properly grip the ground beneath them while their owners travel safely.

Stain and moisture resistance

If flooring is susceptible to staining and moisture, the evidence can linger for years to come. Surfaces with any exposure to pets should be impervious to liquid penetration and resistant to surface staining.

Products installed should provide the highest levels of stain resistance against common staining agents such as urine, bleach, and disinfectants — a must for busy veterinary clinics.

Wall protection

Walls take extra abuse in these areas from carts, people and excited pets. In corridors one practical and economical solution is wainscoting. For many years veterinary clinics have installed wainscoting to protect their walls from chair or table damage, scuff marks from footwear, and other dogs jumping and scratching. By running Altro wall panels horizontally for this purpose it allows walls to be well protected in a more cost efficient manner.

Acoustics

Lessening the sound within the animal hospital does not only make for a more calm and healing environment for sick pets but it can also make staff more comfortable working in an environment that is consistently loud. Acoustic ceiling tile is a must for these areas but designers should also consider flooring options that offer acoustical benefits.

Maintenance

If flooring is susceptible to staining and moisture, the evidence can linger for years to come. Surfaces with any exposure to pets should be impervious to liquid penetration and resistant to surface staining.

Comfort

While polished concrete is an easy fix, it is unforgiving and uncomfortable for pets. Older animals in particular benefit from additional padding compensating for leg support lost with age. Pets can appreciate the underfoot comfort that comes with thicker flooring solutions.

Where veterinary technicians can spend the majority of their shifts on foot, underfoot comfort is another factor to consider for efficient design in these spaces. Choosing the right flooring that promotes this is not only beneficial for the staff but also for many dogs as well, particularly those with hip and joint issues.

Altro Wood Comfort, Altro Wood Acoustic, Altro Orchestra and **Altro Serenade** are all ideal options for outpatient care. These thicker flooring ranges help prevent joint and muscle fatigue with ample underfoot comfort, while their smooth, seamless surface allows for truly thorough cleaning and disinfecting between patients.

Aesthetics

A modern, well-designed interior space will welcome patrons into your facility and give them a comforting area to wait for their companions and interact with staff.





Product(s) shown: Altro Walkway 20



Product(s) shown: Altro Whiterock Matte and Altro Walkway 20



Infection control

In any facility where dogs and cats congregate, the risk of animal borne disease grows. Illnesses like Parvo, Bordetella and feline URIs are of top concern. There are various strategies to minimize risk of infection, among these is maintaining a frequent and thorough cleaning regime. Just like human hospitals, surfaces must be routinely cleaned and disinfected, and just like in hospitals, interior surfaces must be durable enough to withstand the repeated application of these chemicals.

Inherently hygienic surfaces

Growing evidence has shown that antimicrobial additives can actually create more harm than good long-term for both human health as well as the environment. In addition to pollution concerns, prolonged exposure to an antimicrobial additive or ingredient can prompt dangerous mutations in bacteria and viruses. To learn more, see our brochure **Separating fact from fiction: biocides.**



As a result, inherently hygienic materials such as vinyl have become the preferred alternative when considering interior finishes. Altro floor and wall products are free of antimicrobial additives, and our vinyl floors and walls help promote patient safety without detrimental impact over time.

For more information, view our **Crucial cleanability for healthcare environments whitepaper** available on our website, altro.com.

Promoting safety

For areas with high potential of spills from water and liquid contaminants our safety flooring ranges reduce the chance of slip-and-fall accidents to one-in-a-million throughout their lifetime. These finishes provide enhanced safety that can benefit both staff and patients alike, and can transition seamlessly to adjacent areas with our corresponding collection of trims and accessories.



Product(s) shown: Altro Whiterock White

Reception and entrance areas

A modern, well-designed interior space will welcome patrons into your facility and give them a comforting area to wait for their companions and interact with staff.

Warm, welcoming finishes can help alleviate anxiety in these areas by providing pets and owners with a familiar environment rather than a cold, sterile palette associated with traditional healthcare settings.

They are also areas that often see the most foot traffic; this means these areas are frequently subjected to more abuse and occasional “accidents” of pets. The finishes used need to resist this wear and tear. Slip resistance, comfort underfoot and bacteria resistance are all design elements to consider in these areas.

Design inspired flooring options like **Altro Orchestra**, **Altro Wood**, and **Altro Lavencia LVT** make great choices. These products come in contemporary styles that create a clean, and calming environment for furry clients. Warm wood

tones and light linen textures form a soothing space, while maintaining the durability of the materials used.

For the walls, consider using **Altro Tegulis** or **Altro Whiterock PopArt** for creative and inspiring designs.

Key considerations:

- Familiar home-like aesthetics
- Appropriate slip resistance
- High durability and low maintenance requirements
- Acoustics and underfoot comfort
- Use of walk off mats to reduce soiling



Product(s) shown: Altro Walkway 20

Hallways + circulation areas

Finishes used in hallways and similar high-traffic areas should be capable of enduring consistent foot and wheeled traffic without compromising their looks or performance.

Altro adhesive-free flooring provides busy hallways and circulation areas with practical design options. These ranges are ideal for time-sensitive projects where disruption needs to be minimal and partial shutdowns are not a feasible option.

Altro Fortis Titanium 15 is an ideal wall protection option for these spaces. These lightly textured panels are specifically designed to be dense, impervious and resistant to bumps from rolling equipment moving through high-traffic areas. Installed either vertically or horizontally as wainscoting, they can be a great economical choice for wall protection.

Key considerations:

- Durability to cope with high foot + wheeled traffic
- Minimal disruption from renovations
- Quick, efficient installation to prevent lengthy shutdowns
- Textured wainscoting for busy areas



Product(s) shown: Altro Walkway 20

Diagnostic imaging and monitoring areas

Diagnostic Imaging units consist of x-ray, ultrasound, CT scan and MRI rooms used for radiology screening. Equipment associated with these spaces can drastically vary in weight, especially in the case of MRI machines that utilize multiple large magnets totaling thousands of pounds. Flooring solutions specified for these units should prioritize high indentation resistance to ensure that they are capable of coping with extreme weight.

When specifying flooring for use in diagnostic imaging units, it is important to be mindful of the material's composition. Materials containing ferrous metals - those primarily composed of iron - are attracted to any form of magnetic pull. These include aggregates that can be blended into certain types of flooring that regardless of size, can distort an MRI image and complicate diagnostics. Altro flooring is free of any ferrous metals and use aluminum oxide aggregates, making them safe in areas with highly sensitive equipment.

We also offer durable, high-performance static dissipative flooring for rooms where vets keep/use enhanced imaging equipment. **Altro Walkway 20SD** is a static-dissipative option to reduce damage risk to sensitive equipment in computer rooms and laboratories.

Key considerations:

- High indentation resistance, handle extremely heavy equipment without damage
- Materials free of ferrous metals



Grooming and wash areas

Environments where pets are constantly getting cleaned are bound to be wet throughout the day. Along with wet floors, grooming pets will generate a lot of stay hair, making it essential that groomers are able to clean these floors with ease.

These contaminants can make for a slippery surface which is why we recommend using flooring that offers some measure of slip resistance. [Altro Reliance 25](#) and [Altro Walkway 20](#) are excellent choices for these areas as they offer a great balance of underfoot traction and cleanability.

Discover more about our specialized floor and wall solutions for wet environments with our brochure, [Transforming spaces in wet environments](#).

Key considerations:

- Slip resistant flooring
- Cove flooring at least 6 inches up the wall
- Heat welded flooring to prevent water penetration







Animal patient boarding

Boarding facilities and areas receive constant attention and abuse. Besides heavy foot (and paw) traffic, surfaces must resist teeth and claws, while providing for easy maintenance in case of the inevitable spills and “accidents.” Where these areas are frequently hosed down, flooring with added slip resistance is a must.

Reducing noise within these environments is essential for making a calm and inviting setting. Boarding areas can get especially loud, so selecting a flooring solution that can reduce the in-room noise is important.

Key considerations:

- Stain resistance
- Durability
- Sound absorptive surfaces
- Low maintenance finishes
- Textured wall protection or wainscoting

Examination and operating rooms

At Altro, we create flooring solutions with inherent antimicrobial protection without the need for added ingredients or biocides. Our flooring does not have grout lines that promote mold and bacteria and also have enhanced chemical resistance to harsh cleaners and disinfectants, allowing facility owners to deep clean without worrying about damaging the floor.

Altro Symphonia and **Altro Operetta** provide impressive chemical and stain resistance in ORs, enduring frequent cleaning and disinfecting without fading or discoloration. Both can be combined with Altro Whiterock wall cladding for a seamless, floor-to-ceiling hygienic surface. Used in hospitals around the world, these products are ideal for veterinary operating rooms.

Discover more about our floor and wall solutions for these specialized environments with our **Operating Rooms brochure**.

Key considerations:

- Stain and chemical resistant surfaces
- Heat welded transitions
- Slip resistant flooring
- Smooth, easy to clean full height wall cladding





Product(s) shown: Altro Fortis Titanium 15 and Altro Cantata



Therapy and hydrotherapy areas

Just like humans recovering from a surgical procedure, dogs also benefit from post-operative rehabilitation. A growing trend in modern veterinary medicine is the use of hydrotherapy on dogs.

After the initial period of rest is completed, hydrotherapy can be one of the best forms of recovery. Buoyancy helps to decrease pain and minimizes the weight placed on joints and muscles. Hydrostatic pressure reduces edema, general soreness and swelling of post-operative areas. It also creates phasic stimuli to the sensory skin receptors, causing a decrease in hypersensitivity. This reduction in pain perception allows pets to move with greater confidence.

These areas highly prioritize slip resistance similar to any other wet environment. We recommend the use **Altro Aquarius** safety flooring for these areas. This product was developed for lasting performance in wet and dry environments, shoes or barefoot. This 2mm safety floor has been extensively tested on a variety of shoe types (and bare feet) to ensure peak performance.

Combining **Altro Aquarius** flooring with **Altro Whiterock** provides a hygienic, watertight seal from floor-to-ceiling that prevents water ingress while allowing for thorough cleaning and disinfecting between patient sessions.

For more information on appropriate finishes and detailing for these areas, register for our **Designing for healthcare: wet environments** CEU presentation.

Key considerations:

- Safety flooring with high level of slip resistance
- Waterproof seams to prevent moisture ingress
- Flash cove flooring 6" up walls
- Hygienic wall cladding



Cleaning and disinfecting

The best pathogen and odor control for any floor is a strict cleaning protocol. It is far easier when the entire veterinary team learns the value of immediate spot cleaning.

On resilient surfaces, using a low alkaline cleaner and the correct applicator will clean and extend the life of the flooring.

Some excellent sanitizers are made specifically for clinic use. Some brands have active ingredients that work to remove fear pheromones which helps reduce stress in pets and reduce further accidents. While they cost more, they cover a reasonable area if dispensed properly.

It is important to always follow instructions of both all chemicals used and must remember that there is a difference between cleaning and disinfecting.

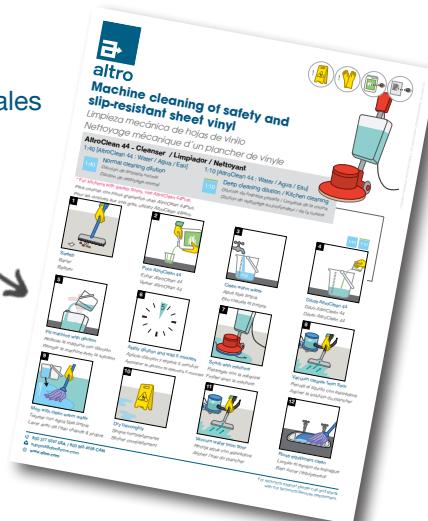
For best results and to maintain the integrity of your flooring, surfaces should still be routinely cleaned after disinfection.

Cleaning and disinfecting procedure

1. Initial clean with mix of detergent (or AltroClean 44) and water (very mild solution) sprayed on surface to ensure surfaces are free of all dirt, feces, vomit, etc.
2. Apply disinfectant product and let this disinfectant sit for minimum 5 minutes.
3. Wipe clean after 5 minutes.
4. Clean the flooring following manufacturers recommended instructions. For Altro safety flooring we recommend AltroClean 44.

For more information please refer to our sterile area cleaning guide or ask your sales representative.

Laminated illustrated cleaning cards are also available in English, French and Spanish languages.





Altro cleaners and maintainers

Specially formulated for Altro products, AltroClean 44 and AltroClean 48W help maintain that fresh new look long after the initial installation. Both cleaners remove stubborn contaminants such as dirt, grease and grime that common cleaning solutions often evade.

AltroClean 44 is the preferred cleaning agent for Altro flooring products. Used in the world's top hospitals, this alkaline cleaner emulsifies stubborn dirt particles allowing for easy cleaner.

For smooth flooring we recommend AltroClean 48W. This all-in-one high-performance floor maintenance product is specially formulated to clean Altro smooth flooring ranges. It contains a unique integrated wax for maintaining aesthetics long-term. No additional flooring finish is required when AltroClean 48W is used on the floor for maintenance.

Both of these cleaners do not emit any VOCs and are safe for use in public areas including corridors, circulation areas and workspaces.



Cleaning considerations:

- Routine maintenance and spot cleaning
- Surface compatibility with cleaning agents
- Correct dilution rates
- Allow disinfectants and cleaners to sit for their required time
- Always clean flooring after disinfecting, never let it just sit on surfaces.

altro in action

Gulf Coast Veterinary Specialists

Texas, USA

Founded in 1989, Gulf Coast Veterinary Specialists (GCVS) is currently one of the largest veterinary specialty and emergency hospitals in the US. The facility's team of medical professionals uses its extensive expertise and experience to provide high-quality, comprehensive treatment for a variety of companion animals. In addition to its specialty services, GCVS is also equipped with Emergency and Critical Care Departments to provide its patients with round-the-clock care during their road to recovery.

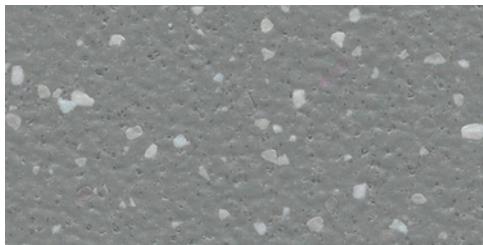
Selecting the most effective flooring surface is a key element of designing pet-friendly interiors. While polished concrete can be an easy fix, it lacks support and underfoot comfort. Broken and chipped tiles can harbor harmful bacteria within cracks and painfully dig into paws with a single misstep.

GCVS required a durable flooring solution that could accommodate their clients' unique needs, particularly slip resistance. Whether moving between rooms or traversing corridors, pets need to have sufficient traction underfoot to avoid

tripping and falling. At the same time, routine maintenance can result in wet, slippery conditions that increase the risk of potential accidents. "The design challenge was to find a floor that would provide a safe foundation for both employees and patients in wet and dry conditions," explained Brian Harnish, Hospital Director at GCVS.

After careful consideration, Altro Walkway 20 proved to be the best option for use throughout the facility. This 2mm slip-resistant flooring boasts impressive slip resistance in both wet and dry conditions, allowing pets to grip the ground beneath them firmly with adequate comfort underfoot. Older animals in particular benefit from proper grip and additional padding compensating for leg support lost with age.

"Both our staff and clients are happy with the flooring choice," stated Harnish. "Our patients are confident when walking on them, which is very important to us as many of them are either unstable or unfamiliar with interior flooring."



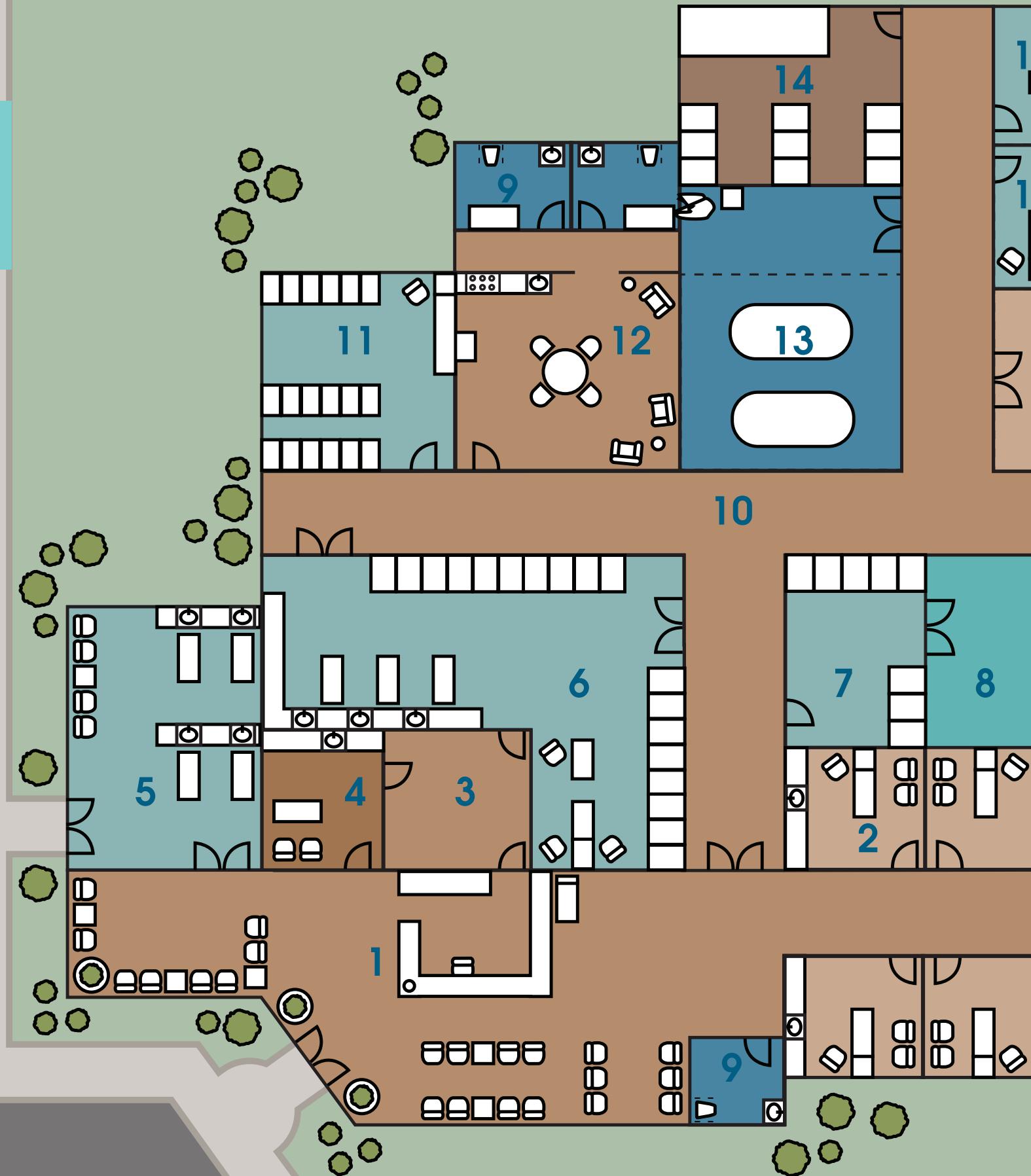
Altro Walkway 20



Altro Walkway 20



Product(s) shown: Altro Walkway 20





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Key

Safety floors

2mm

Smooth floors

2mm	2.85mm	3.9mm
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Smooth tile + plank floors

2mm

Slip-resistant floors

Indoor	Outdoor
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Wall recommendations

Altro Whiterock, Altro Whiterock wall designs, Altro Whiterock Matte, Altro Whiterock PopArt, Altro Tegulis and Altro Fortis Titanium 15

Cleaning

Proper cleaning is essential to keeping a facility hygienic no matter which interior finishes are selected. We highly recommend that a cleaning and sanitizing program is created specific to your facility that utilizes the resources and products as recommended by individual manufacturers.

Our cleaning guidelines are available at altro.com

Samples

Altro recommends that color selection is never made through printed or digital materials. Please order a physical sample for color and pattern approval before placing your order with us.

Order samples 24 hours a day at altro.com or find us on Material Bank.



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